

**Bowling Green**  
**CH-215**  
**Bryantown vic.**  
**Private**

**1815; 1875**

In its most recent form, Bowling Green is currently a 2 1/2 story, double-pile, center-passage frame dwelling reconstructed from an earlier Federal-era dwelling by members of the Bowling family during the last quarter of the 19th century. Exhibiting classic vernacular Victorian details, Bowling Green has an overall side-gable orientation with a decorative center gable and an Italianate-inspired arched window. A full-width hipped roof porch is embellished with decorative brackets and a center gable capped with a Stick ornament. Under this Victorian skin is a side-passage dwelling likely constructed during the first quarter of the 19th century, whose most distinctive vestiges are a pair of exterior brick chimneys with single end stepped shoulders found on the southeast gable elevation. Since its major reconstruction, the dwelling remains largely unaltered.

Although originating in the early 19th century, Bowling Green, heavily reconstructed in the Victorian style around 1875, is one of the earliest and most elaborate post-Civil War dwellings in Charles County. Retaining its historic rural setting, Bowling Green is one of a handful of fully executed Victorian farmhouses built during the last quarter of the 19th century. At the time of its reconstruction Bowling Green consisted of almost five hundred acres acquired by William Francis Bowling during the second quarter of the 19th century. According to family tradition, the reconstruction was largely as a result of assistance from Phillip Simms, an extremely wealthy relative who acquired a sizeable fortune in New Orleans during the Civil War. Simms was the brother of Theresa Bowling, wife of William Francis Bowling.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. CH-215

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Bowling Green

other

### 2. Location

street and number 12875 Edelen Road not for publication

city, town Bryantown ☒ vicinity

county Charles

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Joseph C. Posey

street and number 12875 Edelen Road telephone 301-274-0229

city, town Bryantown state MD zip code 20617-2206

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Charles County Courthouse tax map and parcel: 46 p. 21

city, town LaPlata, MD liber 280 folio 23

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report  
☐ Other

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory
			1

## 7. Description

Inventory No. CH-215

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

In its most recent form, Bowling Green is currently a 2 1/2 story, double-pile, center-passage frame dwelling reconstructed from an earlier Federal-era dwelling by members of the Bowling family during the last quarter of the 19th century. Exhibiting classic vernacular Victorian details, Bowling Green has an overall side-gable orientation with a decorative center gable and an Italianate-inspired arched window. A full-width hipped roof porch is embellished with decorative brackets and a center gable capped with a Stick ornament. Under this Victorian skin is a side passage dwelling likely constructed during the first quarter of the 19th century, whose most distinctive vestiges are a pair of exterior brick chimneys with single end stepped shoulders found on the southeast gable elevation. Since its major reconstruction, the dwelling remains largely unaltered.

Bowling Green rests on a continuous brick foundation and is covered in German siding adhered with cut nails. The five bay, center-passage, double-pile plan also includes a single 1 1/2 story kitchen wing. Asphalt shingles covers the main roof while the porch includes a standing seam metal roof. The cornice is boxed. Paired exterior end chimneys flank either gable end while an interior chimney flue is found in the kitchen wing. All windows, doors and shutters appear to be original.

The principal elevation faces northeast and is approached by a circular drive. The porch dominates the façade and is the center of the buildings decorative elements. Highly ornate decorative brackets adorn the six chamfered porch columns and reach horizontally toward the center. The main focal point is the center gable adorned with a simple decorative truss. The porch roof rafters are exposed. The floor is wooden and sits upon brick piers. The first floor includes tall, four 4/4 windows that almost descend to the height of the floor. The centered doorway has a 4-light transom and sidelights and the double door includes prominent arches that mimic the center gable window above. The second story has smaller variations of the se 4/4 window sash well as a pair of narrow 2/2 windows in the center bay. Above this is a 4-light arched window.

The northwest elevation includes a single centered 6/6 light window in the attic story flanked by two asymmetrical chimneys with stepped shoulders, although both provide heat to both the first and second floor. The rear elevation includes a shed roof porch on the first floor supported by identical chamfered posts as found on the front elevation. The second floor includes a porch that extends mid-way from the center passage toward the kitchen wing, providing access to the loft space above. A second story bathroom, occupying the center bay has been added at the end of the porch. The rear elevation includes 9/9 or 9/6 windows on the second floor and 4/4 on the first floor. To the right of the door approaching the kitchen wing is a break in the siding.

The northwest wall of the kitchen wing includes two 9/9 windows. The gable end is without fenestration while the southeast wing includes a covered porch. This kitchen porch has a shed roof and is partially enclosed on the northernmost. Access to the cellar confirms the use of hand-hewn posts and circular sawn joists in the kitchen construction. Extending from the main block is a narrow shed addition that serves as a pantry and hallway leading to the kitchen. This hallway also includes a narrow stair situated between the chimneys that leads to the sleeping loft above. Two windows pierce this passageway on the southeastern wall and a pair of 4/4 windows are situated on the northeastern principal façade. A false-front or parapet conceals the true shed roofline of this wing.

The interior features an overall center-passage, double-pile plan. Dominating the entrance hall is a curved mahogany staircase similar to that found at Simms/Burch House CH??, and accentuated with a prominent turned newel. All doors throughout include four panels. Many include original paint finishes and graining. All walls include their plaster finish and the milled Victorian trim is characteristically wide. The original wood floors throughout are unfinished. The principal room in the front part of the dwelling include Victorian mantels. The smaller rear rooms have three-part mantels more closely in line with the Federal era. While the dining room mantle may be in its original location, the similar mantel in the opposite room was likely moved from the current southeast parlor at the time of the reconstruction in the late 19th century. Pantry doors likely originated as the dividing doors between the northernmost front and rear rooms. The dwelling also includes several original coal stoves and much of the original Victorian furniture.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No CH-215

Name Bowling Green  
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

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Two tobacco barns are also located on the site. The earliest was constructed in 1925 and consists of a gable structure with vertical board siding and an attached stripping shed. Beyond this field is a gambrel roof barn built by the Amish in 1975. This is a double, center-isle structure with iron clasps used to secure the vents on either side.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. CH-215

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime industry	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

**Specific dates** c. 1815; 1875

**Architect/Builder** Unknown

**Construction dates** c. 1815; 1875

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual.)

Although originating in the early 19th century, Bowling Green, heavily reconstructed in the Victorian style around 1875, is one of the earliest and most elaborate post-Civil War dwellings in Charles County. Retaining its historic rural setting, Bowling Green is one of a handful of fully executed Victorian farmhouses built during the last quarter of the 19th century.

At the time of its reconstruction Bowling Green consisted of almost five hundred acres acquired by William Francis Bowling during the second quarter of the 19th century. These tracts included Warren's and Guiberd's, part of Indian fields, part of Warren, part of Boarman Manor, part of Giebert's tract. After his death around the time of the Civil War, the property was acquired by his three daughters Rachael, Maria and Elizabeth. According to family tradition, the reconstruction was largely as a result of assistance from Phillip Simms, an extremely wealthy relative who acquired a sizeable fortune in New Orleans during the Civil War. Simms was the brother of Theresa Bowling, wife of William Francis Bowling.

Although it is difficult to identify the locations of each tract, the two mentioned first Warren and Guiburd's consisting of 204 acres may have included the house site and its earlier dwelling. In 1836 these adjoining tracts were deeded to William Francis Bowling from Henry J. and Mary Rose Bowling. This was the earliest transaction recorded for William Francis Bowling who went on to purchase adjoining acreage throughout the 1840's and 50's. The deed refers to buildings and improvements.

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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Inventory No. CH-215

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of surveyed property 245

Acreage of historical setting 488

Quadrangle name Hughesville

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Bowling Green is associated with Charles County Property Tax Map 46, Parcel 21, Grid 1.

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Cathy Currey/ Historic Sites Surveyor

organization Charles County Planning

date 9/9/01

street and number 200 Baltimore Street

telephone 301-396-5815

city or town LaPlata

state MD zip code 20646

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032  
410-514-7600

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-215

Section 8 Page 1

Bowling Green  
name of property  
Charles County, MD  
county and state

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**Chain of Title:**

Last Will and Testament of Mary B. Posey, wife of Reed Posey, deceased. **GCW 30:274.**

June 4, 1914            Frank V. Bowling to Mary Bowling Posey and Reed A. Posey. "Bowling Green" 245 ac.  
**HCC 27 Folio 233**

Last Will and Testament of Frances L. Bowling, sister of Frank V. Bowling

March 3, 1904           Elizabeth S. Bowling of Baltimore City to Frank V. Bowling and sister Frances L. Bowling. 276 acres with Improvements. Adjoining the property of Benjamin F. Bowling, William F. Bowling and Benjamin M. Edelen.  
**FDM 15:292**

October 1, 1874           Teresa Bowling, widow of William F. Bowling, to Rachael, Maria and Elizabeth Bowling. \$1200. 488 a.  
Her interest in the real estate of the late William F/H.Bowling  
**GAH:349**

July 4, 1874            Joseph Bowling, Louisa, his wife, and others to Rachael, Maria and Elizabeth Bowling. Warrens tracts and Guilards, part of Indian fields, part of Warren, part of Boarmans Manor, part of Gilberts tract. 488 acres. All the real estate which the late William (F/H.)Bowling died siezed and possessed.  
**GAH 4:348**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Inventory No. CH-215

Section 9      Page 1

Bowling Green  
name of property  
Charles County, Maryland  
county and state

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**Major Bibliographic References:**

Brown, Jack D., et al. Charles County, Maryland, A History.  
Charles County Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

Charles County Land Records, Charles County Courthouse, LaPlata, Maryland.

Klapthor, Margaret Brown. The History of Charles County, Maryland.  
LaPlata, MD: Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.



RESOURCE SKETCH MAP

Date: 7/01

North arrow:

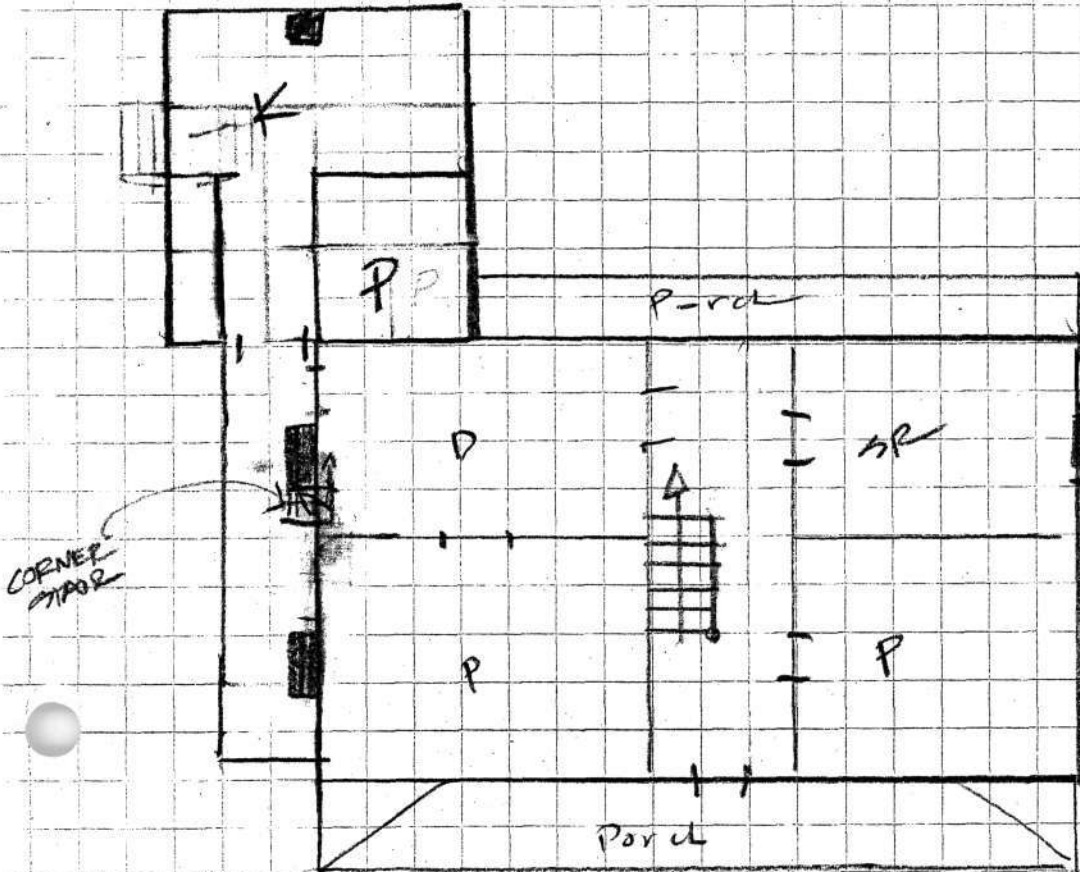
N

Name: BOWLING GREEN  
Address: 12875 EDELEN RD  
CH - 215

Charles County, Maryland

Bel

Vicinity





32'30"

4267

4266

250 000  
FEET

4264

4263

38°30'  
76°52'30"

(POPE'S CREEK)  
5660 IV NW

Mapped by the Army Map Service  
Edited and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs  
taken 1937, 1938, and 1943. Topography by planetable  
surveys 1944. Culture revised by the Geological Survey 1956

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system  
1000 meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,

OLIVERS SHOP 1.3 MI.  
6.7 MI. TO MD. 234

840 000 FEET

339

50'

Notre Dame  
High Sch  
St Marys Sch

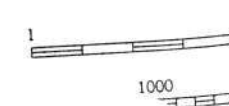
Burnt  
Store

Grosstown

Wheatley  
Run

CH-215 Charles County, MD  
Name: BOWLING GREEN  
Location: BRYANTOWN VIC  
Quad: HUGHESVILLE

UTM GRID AND 1974 MAGNETIC DATA  
CENTER OF SHEET





CH - 215  
Bowling Green  
Charles Co. Md.  
C. Currey  
8/2001  
MD SHPO  
LOOKING SW  
10P7





CH-215

Bowling Green  
Charles Co. Md.

C. Currey

8/2001

MD SHPO

LOOKING E

Zone 7





CH-215  
Bowling Green  
Charles Co. Md.  
C. Currey  
8/2001  
MD SHPO  
REAL, LOOKING  
3087



CH-215

Bowling Green  
Charles Co. Md.

C. Currey

8/2001

MD SHPO

LOOKING NW

4 OF 7



CH-215

BOWLING GREEN

CHARLES COUNTY, MD

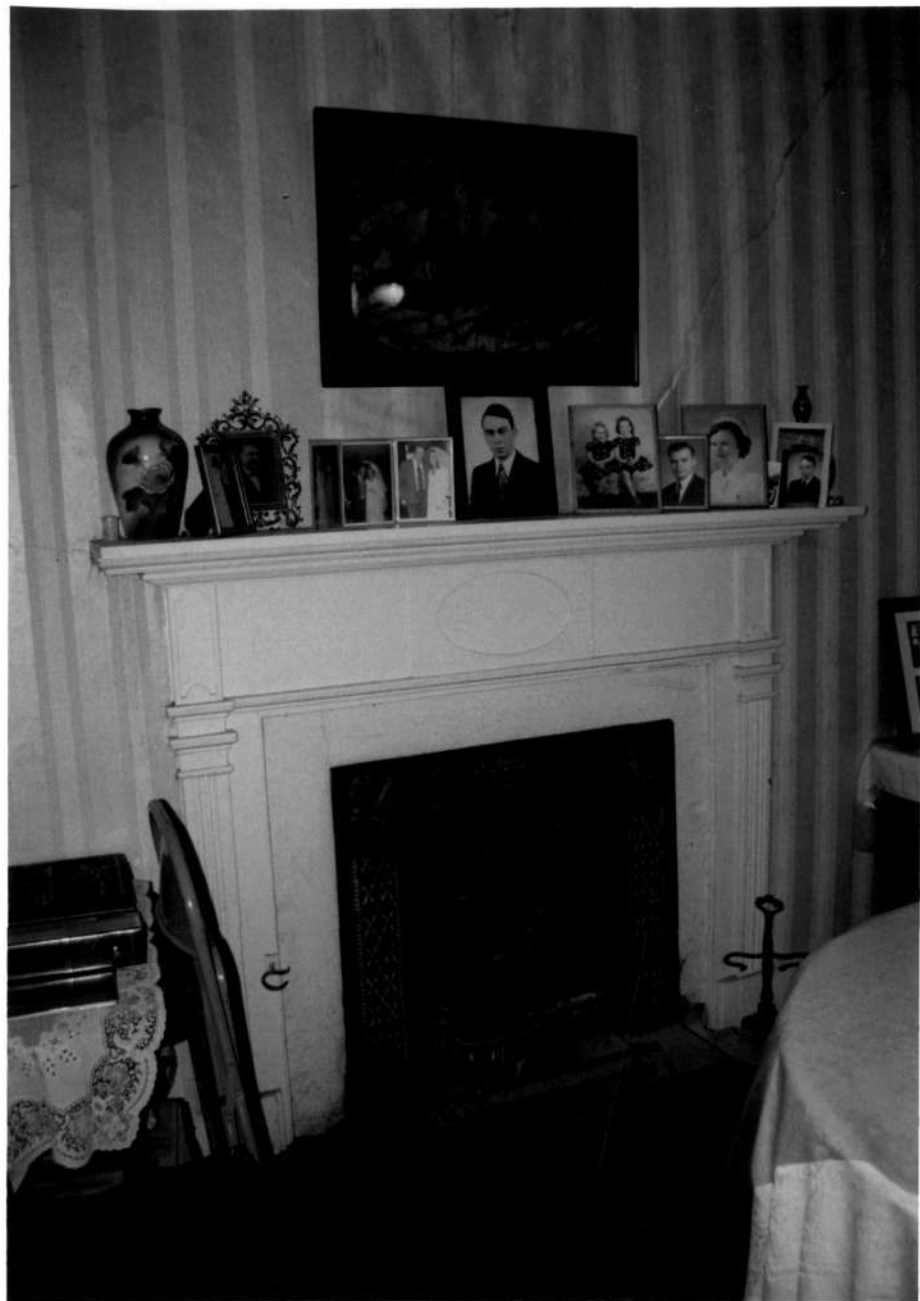
MAY 2001

C. CURREY

MD SHPO

STAIR, LOOKING SW

5087



CH-215  
Bowling Green  
Charles Co. Md.  
C. Curren  
8/2001  
MD SHPO  
PEAR, DINING RM MANTEL  
6 of 7





CH-215  
Bowling Green  
Charles Co., Md.  
C. Currey  
8/2001  
MD SHPO  
L-1425 blacke barn  
7057

CH-215  
Bowling Green  
Bryantown  
Private

19th century

Built by members of the Bowling family, who still own the property, on a part of the 3,333-acre Boarman Manor tract, this two-story frame house has large exterior chimneys and Victorian embellishments at the principal facade including the cornice decoration, centered cross-gable with round-arched window, and bracketed porch. At the rear are several later additions which give the house its present L-plan. One of the many interesting features is a curved mahogany stairway.

The house is five bays long and two wide. Sash are 4/4 on the first two floors, with real shutters. The hip-roofed front porch is supported by square columns with sawnwork brackets, and has exposed rafter feet. There is a gable above the central entrance to the porch, which has a stick ornament.



CH-215 Bowling Green

SE facade - R. Rivard 2/73